

SPECIAL MESSAGE ABOUT PORTO RICO

Tells the Congress What He Saw and Heard on Island During His Trip.

PLEASED WITH ITS PROGRESS

Washington, Dec. 11.— President Roosevelt sent his special message on the Panama canal to congress today. The message is as follows: To the Senate and House of Representatives:

On November 21 I visited the island of Porto Rico, landing at Ponce, crossing by the old Spanish road by Cayey to San Juan, and returning next morning over the new American road from Arecibo to Ponce; the scenery was wonderfully beautiful, especially among the mountains of the interior, which constitute a veritable tropic Switzerland. I could not embark at San Juan because the harbor has not been dredged out and can not receive an American battleship. I do not think this fact creditable to us as a nation, and I earnestly hope that immediate provision will be made for dredging San Juan harbor.

I doubt whether our people as a whole realize the beauty and fertility of Porto Rico, and the progress that has been made under its admirable government. We have just cause for pride in the character of our representatives who have administered the tropic islands which came under our flag as a result of the war with Spain; and of no one of them is this more true than of Porto Rico. It would be impossible to wish a more faithful, a more efficient and a more disinterested public service than that now being rendered in the island of Porto Rico by those in control of the insular government.

I stop at a dozen towns all told, and one of the notable features in every town was the gathering of the school children. The work that has been done in Porto Rico for education has been noteworthy. The main emphasis, as is eminently wise and proper, has been upon primary education; but in addition to this there is a normal school, an agricultural school, three industrial and three high schools. Every effort is being made to secure not only the benefits of elementary education to all the Porto Ricans of the next generation, but also as far as means will permit to train them so that the industrial, agricultural and commercial opportunities of the island can be utilized to the best possible advantage. It was evident at a glance that the teachers, both Americans and native Porto Ricans, were devoted to their work, took the greatest pride in it, and were endeavoring to train their pupils, not only in mind, but in what counts for far more than mind in citizenship, that is, in character.

I was very much struck by the excellent character both of the insular police and of the Porto Rican regiment. They are both of them bodies that reflect credit upon the American administration of the island. The insular police are under the local Porto Rican government. The Porto Rican regiment of troops must be appropriated for by congress. I earnestly hope that this body will be kept permanent. There should certainly be troops in the island, and it is wise that these troops should be themselves native Porto Ricans. It would be from every standpoint a mistake not to perpetuate this regiment.

In traversing the island even the most cursory survey leaves the beholder struck with the evident rapid growth in the culture both of the sugar cane and tobacco. The fruit industry is also growing. Last year was the most prosperous year that the island has ever known before or since the American occupation. The total of exports and imports of the island was 45 millions of dollars as against eighteen millions in 1901. This is the largest in the island's history. Prior to the American occupation the greatest trade for any one year was that of 1896, when it reached nearly twenty-three millions of dollars.

Fort De France, Martinique, Dec. 11.—Reliable advices received here from Venezuela set forth that President De Soto was moved down to the little sea-coast village of Macuto, near La Guayra, last Monday. The president is described as being very ill. He made the trip from Caracas in a bed. When he arrived at Macuto he appeared to be absolutely unconscious. It is generally believed that he has no chance of recovery. Gen. Paredes, an ex-revolutionist, now in exile, is organizing a serious insurrectionary movement, and declares that he will soon take the field. He claims to have 15,000 rifles at his disposal.

SEVENTEEN PICKED UP AT SEA.

Captain, His Wife and Crew of Lost Vessel Rescued by Steamer.

Nassau, N. P., Dec. 11.— Captain Fredericksen, of the Norwegian bark Wellington, his wife and fifteen members of the crew of the vessel were picked up at sea Dec. 3 in an exhausted condition by the Elder-Dempster steamer Sokoto in latitude 35 north, longitude 66 west. The Wellington, which sailed from Gulfport, Miss., Nov. 12 with a cargo of lumber for Rostrio, Argentina, was waterlogged when deserted. The Sokoto will take the rescued persons to Havana.

PRINCETON FEELS EFFECT ALREADY

Tobacco Companies Kept Them in Funds and Burning of Warehouses Affects Them.

FARMERS SUFFER THE MOST

Farmers of the dark tobacco district around Princeton are reaping the whirlwind sowed by the mob which destroyed the warehouses at that place, and financial ruin stares them in the face as the direct result of this act of vandalism. The effect is coming through the banks of Princeton, which have been the most prosperous in western Kentucky, and the consequences bode ill for the future of that city.

It is stated on good authority that within the last week the banks have called in more than \$100,000 in loans which affect probably more than 100 farmers, just at a season when they need ready cash. Many of them probably by reason of this pinching of the purse strings will have some profitable venture nipped in the bud. Others may lose all their securities in the way of real estate mortgages, and there seems to be no help for them.

The Gallagher and Imperial tobacco companies whose warehouses were burned, did \$1,000,000 worth of business a year. They are buying 300 hogheads of tobacco a day and shipping it out as fast as it comes in. They are withdrawing their accounts. Tobacco movements require ready cash to meet the deliveries, and the withdrawal of the companies' funds compel the banks to fall back on their debtors and they are pressing the loans to payment, to meet their own obligations.

Farmers around Marion, Hopkinsville and other places are hauling their tobacco through two or three counties to dispose of it. Nobody will loan money on tobacco in warehouses or barns, because both are liable to incendiary fires.

The farmers are wrought in a condition of distress and Princeton, which was just enjoying an incipient boom, with real estate active, plans for a new railroad station nearing fulfillment, building going on and money plenty, has received a backset, which is already being felt and from which it may not recover for years.

Some few of the far-seeing ones among the farmers are talking about raising some crop other than tobacco and the prospects are that next year will see a considerable decrease in the acreage in this section.

TO BOTTLE UP YANKEES.

Plan of Foreigners in Bicycle Race.

New York, Dec. 11.—Thirteen teams are going around the saucer track today in a mad endeavor to gain the lead in the six days' bicycle race. All teams with the exception of Wigham and Bedell are running wheel to wheel. The American riders hear the foreign contestants have formed a combination to beat them. Whenever possible the American riders are to be bottled up.

DENATURED ALCOHOL.

To Be Manufactured at American Spirit Company Plants.

Peoria, Ill., Dec. 8.—The Atlas distillery, a property of the American Spirits Manufacturing company, in all probability will open today for the manufacture of denatured alcohol at its mill capacity of 8,000 barrels a day. It is said that orders for new product have been received far in advance of its initial denaturing process, and that the distillery will be kept working the year round producing this class of goods.

NOTICES TO VACATE.

Legal notices were served by a constable Saturday and today on property owners renting houses to women of a questionable character on the north side. The notices were gotten out by members of the frontier committee. If the women are not made to move, the committee intends to prosecute landlords in the courts for renting houses to bawds.

ENGINEER LOSES CONTROL OF AIR

Both Engines Damaged by Impact and Passengers Thrown From Seats and Berths.

WAS RUNNING BEHIND TIME

Five people were injured and two engines smashed at the Illinois Central passenger station this morning in a collision between the Memphis-Louisville fast train and a light switch engine.

The accident was caused by the air brake on the passenger engine refusing to work, and preventing the engineer from slowing down as he approached the station from around the curve of the Memphis division.

Discovering his air pump had stopped, and his air supply exhausted, Engineer Mike Kelley, pulling the fast Illinois Central flyer No. 103, from Memphis to Louisville, blew his distress signal as he rounded the curve to the station and reversed, but without avail. His heavy train crashed into the light engine standing ahead of the Paducah passenger depot at 2:10 o'clock this morning, and five persons were injured. In rounding the curve leading to the depot the engine nearly turned over, and the rate of speed the train maintained is said to have been fully 35 miles an hour. Kelley was 30 minutes late and making up time.

The train was No. 194, engine No. 244, engineer Mike Kelley, city fireman John Willingham, city, and Conductor George Mullinix, of Louisville. The engine struck was No. 234, Engineer Lee Smith and fireman J. M. Trice.

The passenger train was due at 1:40, and at 2:10 o'clock at the coal chute Kelley found his air defective. He saw his pump had stopped and that his engine had gotten beyond control. Several distress signals were blown, and Engineer Smith, on the waiting light engine, which was to have taken the passenger train on to Louisville, started up. He gave his engine steam as fast as she would take it, but the train made the tracks slippery and the engine barely moving when rushing by the depot at at least 35 miles an hour, the heavy passenger train crashed into the light engine.

The tank of the light engine was smashed in and the pilot on the passenger engine crushed. Passengers in the cars were thrown from their berths and seats in utmost confusion and none escaped minor hurts. Railroad physicians were on the scene in a few minutes.

Pullman Conductor Westfall caught his right hand in the door and three fingers were crushed so the first joints had to be amputated.

Jack Drummer, of New York City, 114 West Fortieth street, was thrown from his berth in the sleeper and suffered severe bruises about the head and severe sprains.

L. A. Lehman, a passenger of Ellettsville, Miss., was thrown from his berth and sustained a badly bruised head and neck.

The five-months-old son of Mrs. Betty Sellers, Golconda, Ill., was bruised about the head.

Fireman John Willingham, of 1431 Jefferson street, was thrown from the cab of the passenger train engine and his right wrist was sprained and his face cut and bruised.

The injuries are not serious except to the Pullman conductor. Physicians made all comfortable and as soon as the engines were separated and the track cleared, the train was sent ahead with a fresh engine.

There were many theories advanced in explanation of the cause of the wreck. Kelley stated that the air pump failed to work. This could readily have caused the engine to get beyond control. Another is that a tramp riding the blind baggage turned the angle cock and cut the air off from the engine.

SWITCHMEN INCREASED.

Paducah Men Will Get 4 Cents More the Hour.

Mr. George Finnigan who has just returned from Chicago, reports a raise to the I. C. switchmen in Paducah and other cities on the Louisville division of the road amounting to 4 cents an hour to Paducah yardmen, 42 cents to Princeton yardmen per day, and increase to five Central City switchmen to \$27 per month. The night yardmaster at Central City was raised from \$75 to \$99 per month.

Beach Is Settling.

Moorehead, N. Y., Dec. 10.—Great consternation prevails here as the result of a discovery that the beach is settling. It actually has sunk nearly 20 feet in the last 48 hours. The embankment and break water have partially disappeared. There are 70 feet of water where before there was but three feet.

NO EXCUSES GO.

Judge Cross Says Cows Must Be Kept Up.

"I will dismiss the case this time," Judge Cross said this morning in police court. "but in the future I shall not be so lenient. When the law is violated I shall uphold it no matter what the excuses are." This declaration was made when George Crane was presented for permitting his cow to run at large on the streets. He explained that his cow was pastured in a vacant lot in the rear of his house, and that Saturday some mischievous boys let her out.

SELLING LIQUOR TO CITY YOUTHS

It Is Expected That Some Indictments for Offense Will Be Returned.

SEVERAL CASES CONSIDERED

The grand jury is now working on "outside business," and promises something startling in its reports from now on according to a rumor around the court house.

Judge Reed charged it to investigate gaming, selling liquor to minors, and the crime of carrying concealed a deadly weapon. Of these charges selling liquor to minors seems to be of great interest. The grand jury is investigating several cases. It is likely that a batch of indictments for this offense will be returned.

Alleged Disorderly House.

Mayor Yelzer turned over to the grand jury this morning an anonymous communication about an alleged disorderly house on South Eighth street. The letter, contained the names of witnesses. Mayor Yelzer said as the grand jury is in session, he considers it the duty of that body to make the investigation.

CLEVER THIEF.

Hears Man Tell of Leaving Money at Home and Gets It.

Hopkinsville, Ky., Dec. 8.—Police-man M. W. Merritt is poorer by \$24 as the result of the clever trick worked by a negro boy.

When Mr. Merritt left home yesterday morning he forgot his pocket-book, but telephoned his wife and learned that it was safe where he had left it. Meeting a friend on the street he recounted the experience, not paying any attention to several persons standing nearby.

When he reached home at noon, almost the first word his wife addressed to him was the inquiry as to whether or not he had received his pocket-book all right. "Why no," answered her husband; "I did not even send for it." Then it developed that a negro boy had called at the home during the morning, and by a comparison of time, shortly after Mr. Merritt had related the occurrence on the street, and had told Mrs. Merritt that her husband had sent for his purse. Thinking that the boy was telling the truth, she gave him the purse containing \$24 and he departed and has not been located since, neither has any clew been found as to his identity.

STORER INCIDENT.

President Roosevelt Makes Public Some Information.

Washington, Dec. 10.—President Roosevelt today made public a long letter addressed to Secretary Root, giving the correspondence between the president and former Ambassador Bellamy Storer, at Vienna, and Mrs. Storer in which he says that Mr. Storer's refusal to answer his letters and the publication of various private letters justified the ambassador's removal; that Mr. Storer's publication of private correspondence was peculiarly ungentlemanly and that he (the president) had stated with absolute clearness his position, the reason why it was out of the question for him as president, to try to get any archbishop made a cardinal, though expressing his admiration for Archbishop Ireland as well as others of other denominations.

GREAT ENGLISH GUNNERY.

Jackies of Prince Louis' Flagship Make 80 Per Cent. Record of Hits.

London, Dec. 8.—Remarkable results were obtained by the gunners of the Drake, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Prince Louis of Battenberg, during their recent gun practice in Arad Bay. Out of a total of 133 shots fired from the 9.2 guns and the six inches at a distance of four miles, 105 or 89 per cent., hit the target.

The Drake thus takes top place in the fleet.

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WILL PROSECUTE

Landlords Who Do Not Make Bad Women Move.

The Frontier committee met last night at the tin shop of Chris Miller at Sixth and Trimble streets, and heard a report from the special committee appointed to investigate into the immigration of women from the "red light" district into the First and Second wards. The committee reported that several women had moved. A sub-committee was appointed to confer with property owners renting houses to the women. They will be petitioned to oust the women, and in event they fail, or refuse, will be prosecuted in the grand jury room by the committee.

Naturalization of Japs.

Washington, Dec. 10.—"Should congress pass a law admitting subjects of Japan to citizenship the traditional friendship between the two nations would be materially strengthened," said Viscount Aoki, Japanese ambassador, in the course of an interview today. "Of course, no nation likes to see its subjects leave to take up a permanent abode in a foreign land and lose all relation with the fatherland, but in many cases it can not be helped."

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Assignee Makes Report.

Mr. R. J. Barber's report of receipts and disbursements while he was assignee of the E. Rehkopf Saddlery company shows that he took in \$1,202.17, and disbursed all but \$153.50 of that amount, which sum he turned over to Cecil Reed. Mr. Barber has resigned.

Beautiful Memorial.

Memorial services were held in Memphis morning and evening, making a memorial in memory of Capt. Bushing connection with all lines, and car and Mr. Hodge, who died several years ago. Hon. J. K. Hendrick, C. cafe cars. C. Grassham and Judge W. A. Berry Write in for literature describing returned today from attending court country, for maps, time table and information about sales, etc.

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